

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A management device creates transmission path connection information from device information which it collects from individual devices. If the management device is notified of a faulty device from a managed device, it identify a transmission path containing the faulty device and causes the server, which accesses data stored in the storage through the transmission path, to stop using the transmission path. To deal with devices not having the failure notice function, the management device can cause individual devices to present device information on a regular basis and detect a faulty device from the received device information. When the transmission path is restored to proper working condition, the management device is notified of the restored path and automatically causes to the server to start using that transmission path. Note that the functions performed by the management device can also be provided as programs.